The following Listing of the Claims will replace all prior versions and all prior listings of the claims in the present application:

Listing of The Claims:

1-18. (Canceled)

19. (Withdrawn) A pellet, comprising

a therapeutic agent surrounding a radio-opaque material, whereby delivery of the therapeutic agent is facilitated by viewing the position of the radio-opaque material relative to a position of a targeted site for implanting the pellet.

20. (Currently amended) Apparatus for carrying a plurality of sequentially positioned pellets comprising a therapeutic agent and sequentially implanting [[a]] one or more of the pellets ~~therapeutic agent~~ within a tissue wall, comprising

an elongate flexible body having a proximal end and a distal end,

a delivery chamber coupled to the distal end of the body and having a space for carrying ~~the~~ a plurality of the pellets ~~therapeutic agent,~~ and a port for sequentially releasing ~~the~~ one or more pellets ~~therapeutic agent~~ therefrom, and

an actuator coupled to the delivery chamber and capable of sequentially driving ~~the~~ one or more of the pellets ~~therapeutic agent~~ through the port,

wherein the distal end of the apparatus is configured to present a distal tip sufficiently sharp to penetrate the tissue to locate the port in ~~and drive the therapeutic agent into~~ a tissue wall, whereby the one or more pellets comprising the therapeutic agent ~~is~~ may be sequentially implanted within the tissue wall.

21. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 20, further including

a control mechanism coupled to the actuator and the proximal end of the body for providing control of the actuator, whereby a user can operate the control mechanism for controlling the delivery of the therapeutic agent.

22. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 20, further including

a steering mechanism for turning the distal end of the body, to thereby allow the delivery chamber to be selectively guided through a body lumen.

23. (Original) Apparatus according to clam 20, wherein the delivery chamber and the distal end of the flexible body are dimensionally adapted to allow for transluminal delivery and for entry into the interior of a patient's heart.

24. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the delivery chamber includes a substantially cylindrical interior housing dimensionally adapted to store in axial alignment a plurality of minispheres containing a therapeutic agent.

25. (Previously presented) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the distal end of the apparatus is pointed to penetrate a tissue wall.

26. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the actuator includes a plunger for sequentially driving ~~the~~ one or more of the pellets ~~therapeutic agent~~ from the delivery chamber.

27. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 20, further including

a ratchet assembly for allowing sequentially delivery of discreet numbers ~~amounts~~ of the pellets comprising the therapeutic agent.

28. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the actuator includes

a threaded plunger for advancing into the delivery chamber responsive to a rotating action.

29. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 20, wherein the delivery chamber is adapted to receive at least one pellet containing the therapeutic agent.

30. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 20, further including

a lever-action handle mounted at the proximal end of the flexible body and coupled to the control mechanism.

31. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 20, where the delivery chamber has an arcuate shaped portion for facilitating implanting of a pellet comprising the therapeutic agent within a tissue wall ~~further including~~

~~means for receiving at least one pellet containing the therapeutic agent and having an arcuate shape for facilitating implanting within a body of tissue~~.

32. (Currently amended) Apparatus according to claim 31, wherein the delivery chamber ~~means for receiving at least one pellet~~ includes a port formed from a plurality of converging flexible fingers.

33. (New) Apparatus for carrying a plurality of sequentially positioned pellets and sequentially implanting one or more of the pellets within a tissue wall, comprising:

an elongate flexible body having a proximal end and a distal end,

a delivery chamber coupled to the distal end of the body, comprising

a space for carrying a plurality of the pellets,

a plurality of pellets comprising a therapeutic agent sequentially positioned in the space, and

a port for sequentially releasing one or more pellets therefrom, and

an actuator coupled to the delivery chamber and capable of sequentially driving one or more of the pellets through the port,

wherein the distal end of the apparatus is configured to present a distal tip sufficiently sharp to penetrate the tissue to locate the port a tissue wall, whereby one or more of the pellets may be sequentially implanted in the tissue wall.

34. (New) Apparatus according to claim 33, further including

a control mechanism coupled to the actuator and the proximal end of the body for providing control of the actuator, whereby a user can operate the control mechanism for controlling the delivery of the therapeutic agent.

35. (New) Apparatus according to claim 33, further including

a steering mechanism for turning the distal end of the body, to thereby allow the delivery chamber to be selectively guided through a body lumen.

36. (New) Apparatus according to claim 33, wherein the actuator includes a plunger for sequentially driving one or more of the pellets from the delivery chamber.

37. (New) Apparatus according to claim 33, further including

a ratchet assembly for allowing sequentially delivery of discreet numbers of the pellets comprising the therapeutic agent.

38. (New) Apparatus according to claim 33, further including

a lever-action handle mounted at the proximal end of the flexible body and coupled to the control mechanism.